

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF
INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH
ACCOUNTS STORED AT PREMISES
CONTROLLED BY GOOGLE

Case No.

1:18MJ-139

Under Seal

**APPLICATION FOR ORDER COMMANDING GOOGLE NOT TO NOTIFY ANY
PERSON OF THE EXISTENCE OF WARRANT**

The United States requests that the Court order Google not to notify any person (including the subscribers or customers of the account(s) listed in the warrant) of the existence of the attached warrant for one year.

Google is a provider of an electronic communication service, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2510(15), and/or a remote computer service, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2711(2). Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703, the United States obtained the attached warrant, which requires Google to disclose certain records and information to the United States. This Court has authority under 18 U.S.C. § 2705(b) to issue “an order commanding a provider of electronic communications service or remote computing service to whom a warrant, subpoena, or court order is directed, for such period as the court deems appropriate, not to notify any other person of the existence of the warrant, subpoena, or court order.” *Id.*

In this case, such an order would be appropriate because the attached warrant relates to an ongoing criminal investigation that is neither public nor known to all of the targets of the investigation, and its disclosure may alert the targets to the ongoing investigation. Accordingly, there is reason to believe that notification of the existence of the attached warrant will seriously jeopardize the investigation, including by giving targets an opportunity to flee or continue flight from prosecution, destroy or tamper with evidence, change patterns of behavior, intimidate

potential witnesses, or endanger the life or physical safety of an individual. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 2705(b). Some of the evidence in this investigation is stored electronically. If alerted to the investigation, the subjects under investigation could destroy that evidence, including information saved to their personal computers.

WHEREFORE, the United States respectfully requests that the Court grant the attached Order directing Google not to disclose the existence or content of the attached warrant for one year, except that Google may disclose the attached warrant to an attorney for Google for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

The United States further requests that the Court order that this application and any resulting order be sealed until further order of the Court. As explained above, these documents discuss an ongoing criminal investigation that is neither public nor known to all of the targets of the investigation. Accordingly, there is good cause to seal these documents because their premature disclosure may seriously jeopardize that investigation.

Executed on this 28th day of February, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

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